

# THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

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## SOUTH-AMERICA.

The following communication, in continuation of one published a few weeks ago in our *Register*, we present to the public. As the subject of our differences with Spain will, no doubt, come before congress at the ensuing session, the present is perhaps a proper time for its discussion; and our pages are open for arguments on either side.

*For the National Register.*

MR. MEAD,

I endeavoured, in a few desultory observations I made a short time ago, to point out some of the advantages that would result to this country from assisting the patriotic cause in South-America. As my remarks were necessarily very succinct, and as the subject has come generally before the public, I will endeavour now to exhibit more at large those advantages I before but cursorily enumerated.

This subject must be considered, first, on the ground of political justice; and second, on that of interest, which seems to be the great moving power among nations, as well as individuals. I contended before, that as we had been assisted in our revolutionary struggles by France, when in a similar condition, it becomes us to give our aid to a sister nation contending for those liberties and political privileges we so eminently enjoy. In religion and morals we are under an obligation to aid the weak, to promote the cause of virtue, and to contribute to the happiness of our neighbours: This also applies to nations. "The first general law," says Vattel,\* "which the end itself of the society of nations discovers, is, that each nation ought to contribute to the happiness and perfection of others, as far as it is in its power." No one will say, that the adoption of a free constitution and the establishment of a free government in South-America would not contribute to this end. The highest degree of happiness society can experience consists in being permitted to do whatever its members please, consistently with the laws which they themselves have enacted.† This degree of happiness it is in the power of this country now to afford their South-American brethren; and coldly to refrain from contributing to the accomplishment of so desirable an object would, I conceive, not only be unnatural, but im-

moral and unjust. I deem it unnecessary to demonstrate the right, founded on the laws of nature and nations, that every state has to make itself free and independent, because I presume no one will dispute it. If this right is a natural and political right, we do no wrong in causing it to be acknowledged; or rather, to speak affirmatively, we are doing right when we lend our assistance to promote it. We should not violate any of the laws of nations by entering into an alliance with South-America, and giving them our assistance. "A sovereign or state," says Martin,\* "may be obliged to join his forces to those of another power, sometimes in fulfilment of his treaties of alliance, and sometimes in consequence of a particular connection existing between them, or he may do it from his own choice. In none of these cases does he act against the law of nations, if the cause he espouses be not unjust." There is another consideration that must not be omitted; and setting aside the propriety and right of a voluntary alliance with the patriots of South-America, I contend that there exists at present a justifiable cause of war with Spain. The case of Mr. Meade at Cadiz, the encouragement Spain has given the enemies of this country, *flagrante bello*, the corruption and bribery she has attempted to practise on our citizens to induce them to sow dissensions and discord in the United States, her conduct at Valparaiso, and last, though not least, the affair of the Fire-brand, would to any other nation be a sufficient cause of war, and would justify immediate hostilities. These reasons will, I presume, be sufficient to show the justice of lending our assistance to the South-Americans: It now rests with me to point out some of the advantages that would result from the establishment of an independent government in that continent; which, by our aid, might be easily effected. From the nature of our government and institutions, we are regarded by the patriots as their natural friends; and from us they anticipate that assistance which a nation contending for the same political principles, and having an intimate geographical connection, has a right to expect. If we withhold or refuse our aid, the result will be, that they will lose that sympathy they now feel, and transfer their present attachment and respect to some other nation less phlegmatic and indifferent—and what should we lose by this! The United States will

\* Droit de Gens, tom. i. p. 15.  
† Montesquieu, L'Esprit de Loix.

\* Martin's Law of Nations.

always be agricultural; the one third of their annual produce will be surplus, and must be exported: and where can we find a better market than South-America? The single State of Pennsylvania would alone be sufficient to supply the deficiencies of the whole of the Canadas; and the West-India market has been found to be wholly inadequate to take off the half of our surplus commodities. By assisting them, then, we attach them to us by the strongest bonds of union, and we become sure, not only of an excellent market for our surplus agricultural produce, but also of their trade for centuries—a trade, too, with the richest country in the world. But her trade and the consumption of our surplus produce are not all the benefits we should reap from such a connection. From the very nature of things, we should become her carriers as long as the two nations exist. “For Mexico,” says Pike,\* “like China, will never become a nation of mariners, but must receive the nations of all the world into her ports, and give her bullion in exchange for the productions of their different countries. What would not be the advantages the United States would reap from this event? Our numerous vessels would fill every port, and from our vicinity enable us to carry off at least *nine tenths of her commerce*. Even on the coast of the Pacific,” he continues, “no European nation would vie with us: there would be a brisk inland trade carried on with the southern provinces *via* Red River, and having a free entrance into all their ports, we should become their *factors, agents, guardians, and, in short, their tutelar genius*.” These calculations are not those of a visionary, or of one who predicts from fancy alone; they are founded on accurate investigation and an intimate knowledge of the country of which he writes, and would unquestionably be realized in the event of the success of the patriots, assisted by the arms of this country. There is, however, another advantage I must not here omit. Should we be involved in another contest with Great Britain, an intercourse with South-America will always secure us from those financial embarrassments we experienced so heavily during the last war. We may always have an abundance of the precious metals; which will thus preserve the national credit, and be the means of delivering us from those inconveniences and sacrifices resulting from a diseased state of the paper currency.

Another point has to be considered. It may be asked, would not our interference between Spain and her American colonies, bring down upon us the resentment of confederated Europe? I answer, no; confederated Europe has nothing

\* Major Pike's Expedition.

to do with the present contest; and experience has shown us in a former case precisely analogous, that Europe would not interfere. France was not assailed by any European power, except the one then at war with her, for assisting us in the acquisition of our liberty and independence; and it is not to be supposed that at the present period they would do what, they refused to do then. Great Britain is peculiarly interested in the success of the South-American patriots; and were it not for setting a bad example to monarchies, would, I doubt not, immediately give her aid openly, as she now does covertly. Her store houses are now loaded with manufactures; her manufacturers are literally starving for the want of employment; and that nation would be happy of any political change abroad that would give vent to those commodities and employment to so numerous a class of society. It is known to have been a very favourite scheme with Pitt, Fox, and other leading statesmen in England, to bring about this revolution, and to establish a separate government in South-America, with a view to the interests of the British nation. A war with England, therefore, cannot be anticipated on any ground; for the advantages they would derive from such an event are too great to induce them to do any thing that would prevent its completion; and *their* advantages would not conflict with *ours*, because they flow from different sources; hers being a market for her manufactures—ours a sure and constant outlet for our surplus agricultural productions, &c. A war, therefore, with any of the European powers cannot be expected, and need not be dreaded. Another advantage, however, that would necessarily result from a war with Spain I beg leave, *en passant*, just to mention. I mean the possession of Cuba and Florida; which would give us the complete command of the Mexican Gulph, and secure our coasting trade from annoyance and injury.

In the foregoing observations, I trust I have demonstrated to your satisfaction the justice and policy of assisting the patriots of South-America; and I hope the subject may be early taken into consideration by the American government, and measures speedily adopted to promote so desirable an object.

ALCIBIADES.

For the National Register.

#### CHEMICAL.

##### HOW TO PRESERVE IRON FROM RUST.

Bergman says that no metal will unite itself to any acid before calcination; that is, before being combined with the respirable part of the atmos-

phere, or vital air. Iron decomposes water, and passes from a state of heat in rising to vital air and in separating hydrogen gas; and the iron once calcined, unites with the aerial acid, or mephetic gas. Rust is therefore thus produced: the iron, when exposed to air, which is always charged with water, decomposes the water, and becomes calcined; in decomposing it, it disengages the inflammable air, and combines with the mephetic gas disseminated in the atmosphere, and thus produces rust, in which there is a small portion of hydrogen, which is disengaged by the heat at the same moment with the mephetic gas. Iron will not rust but in places where there is humidity, and where it meets with mephetic gas. In order then to preserve it from rust, it is only necessary to withdraw it from the action of the aerial acid and humidity. In order to effect this, there are two modes: 1st. The iron must be covered with oil rendered thick or *sedative* by the dust or filings of lead. 2d. Having made the iron red hot, extinguish it in the oil of flaxseed, and then leave it to sweat and dry up. It is believed by the author of the last mode, that *melted fat or tallow* would be more efficacious.

Steel may also be secured from rust by the above process, but it will lose its lustre and colour. The following varnish should therefore be used: it is composed of *mastic camphor*, the *rosin* of Ethiopia, and *sandarac* or pounce—the whole dissolved in the spirits of wine. A.

For the National Register.

#### ROMAN COSTUMES.

The costume of the Roman matrons differed essentially from that of the young women. The married women wore a mantle or veil upon their heads, and a species of half sleeve, open its whole length, and fastened by many bows of ribbons; the zone was placed immediately under the bosom. The young Roman women wore only a simple white tunic, fastened under the bosom with a zone of the same colour, and covered with a blue or violet mantle: the lower end of this mantle was sometimes, but rarely embroidered. Their arms and feet were naked; and they bound up their hair with a band of blue or white stuff. G.

#### PRETENSIONS OF THE UNITED STATES TO EXCELLENCE IN THE ARTS, &c.

We are happy to perceive that the editor of the *Raleigh Minerva* has entered into an examination of an article, under the above head, we published some weeks ago. His observations will be found below, to which we refer our readers. It will be

seen that the editor and we are of the same opinion, as to the just pretensions of the United States to a character for excellence in taste, genius, and invention, but differ as to the claims of this country to some of those specimens of the arts we have enumerated. We intentionally avoided, in the preceding article under this head, to enter into a critical investigation of the poetical merits of the Columbiad, and confined our remarks exclusively to the typographic and graphic part of the work, which we claimed as the production of this country. The typographical part is acknowledged to be American, and is certainly a specimen no country need be ashamed to own. It is equal to any thing of the kind Europe has produced, not even excepting the best specimens of Didot, and reflects great credit on the executor. This is the more surprising, when we consider that thirty years ago there was scarcely a work printed in this country, depending entirely on Europe for our literary supplies; and that in this short period we have rivalled in this art the most improved nations of the old world. The subjects of the designs contained in the Columbiad were designated by Fulton, to whom the poem is dedicated; the designs, painted by Smirke, and engraved by Brumley, Neagle, and others, whether they were Americans or Europeans, it is of no moment to inquire. We do not pretend to set them up as the best specimens of the graphic art, and whether they are American or European, it is certain they have been surpassed by Edwin and other native American artists. The engravings of Rees's Encyclopedia, executed by our own artists, are acknowledged by connoisseurs to be of a superior character, and will bear the test of comparison with any of the graphic productions of Europe in that way.

The Ornithology of Wilson, which we adduced as another instance of American excellence in the arts, has been denied by the editor of the *Minerva* to be the work of an American. We seem to differ only as to what constitutes this character. Mr. Wilson was certainly a *native* of Scotland; and, no doubt, wrote the poem of *Watty and Meg*, which was ascribed to Burns: but Mr. W. in the whole of his work, boasts of it as an American production; and it will be seen, in his life, that till he arrived in this country, he knew nothing of painting and drawing, and devoted himself to it after he had conceived the design of undertaking this splendid work. It was his intention to have coloured the plates with his own hands; but the want of time, and the multitude of his engagements, prevented him from putting this design fully into execution; and the greatest portion of the drawings were coloured by other hands—it



is said they were natives. We did not wish to make any distinctions between native and naturalized citizens, and therefore called the productions we mentioned, American; and we presume Mr. Wilson himself would have been very unwilling to have heard his work called Scottish, because he happened to be born in Scotland. The same reasoning will also apply to Fulton; though the merit he is entitled to for the introduction of the steam boat is secondary, the original discovery having been made by Rumsey and Fitch, both, it is believed, Americans.

We shall not, however, differ with Mr. Lucas on these points, believing as he does, that the native genius of this country is equal to the accomplishment of any object in the arts or sciences; and that when proper encouragement shall be offered, an excellence will be attained that will rival, if it does not surpass that of the old world.

*From the Raleigh Minerva*

AMERICAN, ARTS, LITERATURE, &c.—

I entered with as much zeal as any one possibly could do, into the spirit of an article which I copied two weeks ago from the *National Register*—No person will more anxiously than myself advocate the just pretensions of the United States to consideration in the walks of literature and in the pursuit of the arts and sciences. But this is not to be done by confounding the writings of foreigners, or the productions of foreign genius and skill, with those which are really and entirely American. We have enough of our own to depend upon, without pressing into the service any thing to which we cannot lay exclusive claim.

America has given to Europe, in navigation, what is improperly called Hadley's quadrant, which was invented by Godfrey of Philadelphia—in philosophy, the most perfect air-pump yet known—in mechanics, the wonderful machine for making cotton cards.—She can display at home, the loom moving by simple power; the rotary cloth-shearing machine; Evans's mill and steam improvements; and Clymer's admirable lever-printing press. We have therefore no reason to feel jealous of the inventive faculties unfolded in the old world. In letters, philosophy, science—the names of Franklin, Jefferson, Waterhouse, Marshall, Ramsay, Rowson and Dennie, will do us ample justice. In eloquence, Patrick Henry, Ames, Hamilton, and Randolph. In the arts, West, Rush, Trumbull, Stewart, Alston, Leslie, Wood and others. In War, Washington and Greene. In adventure, Ledyard, Lewis, Pike, and Eaton.

Thus it is seen we have no occasion to borrow names or works, nor need we, consequently, lay claim to the engravings of the "*Columbiad*," which are not American, being all executed in London from English drawings—to the productions of Alexander Wilson, who was not an American; nor even to the steam boats of Fulton, who was an Englishman.

The *Columbiad*, in quarto, is unquestionably one of the most beautifully printed works extant. In this respect it may be considered a monument of

the vanity of authorship: since it is an unwieldy and faulty poem, doomed, I fear, to outlive but very few years the unfortunate gentleman its author. The edition was intended to present a specimen of American progress in the arts; but for some singular reason, as I have said, the designs and engravings from them were procured abroad. Yet I will venture to say that there were artists in this country capable of executing them as well.

The "*American Ornithology*," that superb but unfinished work, is not so much ours as even the last. Alexander Wilson from whose pen and pencil it sprung, was born in the west of Scotland, in which country he published his *Watty and Meg*, with other excellently humorous pieces, long before he set sail to seek his fortune in the west. Several of his productions, indeed, have been recited to me by Scotch gentlemen who knew not that Wilson had ever reached the United States. Some of them appeared anonymously, and were attributed to Burns. His neighbours, however were in the secret. We have not even the merit of cherishing this unfortunate genius. He was known to few in the United States—and struggled against poverty during the whole of his laborious undertaking. To be sure, one or two gentlemen of Philadelphia deserved great praise for their munificence towards the stranger; but to the nation he owed nothing but the common protection of the laws.

Nor are we much more happy with respect to the *Steam-Boat principle*. This application of a power, perfectly understood before, to the purposes of navigation is however in so far American, as that without the aid of American liberality, it would probably yet have remained in embryo. But as the very ingenious gentleman, author of the invention, belonged to a rival people, it would be rather humiliating, on our side, to beg him of the nation to which he belonged.

In fine, as a young country, but yesterday reclaimed from the wilderness, I believe that in no comparison of eminent men, need we shrink from opposition with any people on the globe. But the point of superiority is not to be settled by contemporaneous wrangling. British reviewers may deride us; and our newspapers revile them—but time will lay such feeble disquisition quietly upon the shelf; and take down under either arm, for the impartial decision of posterity, sterling works to vindicate the fame of both the irritated parties.

VIRGINIA LEGISLATURE.

COUNCIL CHAMBER, NOV. 11th, 1816.

*Fellow-Citizens of the Senate,  
and House of Delegates,*

The call of the legislature to an earlier day than that fixed by law, was designed to give the assembly an opportunity, if they should deem it necessary, to suspend the law compelling the banks to pay specie after the 15th of November.—If there had not been a change of circumstances, after the passage of the law, no idea would have existed of the propriety of such a step. At the time this law passed, it might have been, and, it is believed, was expected, that the congress of the United States would have taken every constitutional measure to co-operate in producing the same result. It might have been fairly expected, too, that the States in our neighbourhood, would

have adopted the same course, so as to produce simultaneous payments of specie. Instead of doing so, congress indirectly sanctioned the withholding specie payments, until the 20th of February next; the other State governments have been silent upon the subject, and the banks of the other States have declared their determination to make such payments on the first of July. The risk and hardship upon our banks is made the greater by the establishment of a new bank under the authority of the U. S. the two last payments to which will fall due at periods that will induce subscribers to that bank to make their payments by drawing the specie from our banks. It is to be expected, that the different State banks, in their preparation for the payment of specie, will use every means in their power to remove the coin from the vaults of our banks to their own. It is believed, if these circumstances could have been foreseen, that the law would not have fixed so early a day, and that the effect of it will be to cripple the banks of Virginia in such a way, as to prevent their affording the smallest accommodation to commerce for a great length of time; which, in its present embarrassed state, would produce great mischief—and, ultimately, fall upon the agricultural part of the community. I beg leave to refer to a joint letter from the presidents of the Farmer's and Virginia Banks upon this subject, (No. 1.) The great interest of the State in these banks, is a consideration of much weight—but it is apprehended that the loss of the facilities afforded to commerce by the banks, would be much greater; our commerce having been thrown so much upon that resource, and for such a length of time. The connection between commerce and agriculture is so intimate, that it is impossible one should flourish while the other languishes. The merchant is neither more nor less than the factor of the farmer. If he possess the command of money, he can purchase and pay for produce; if he do not, he is driven to purchase upon credit: in which case, it is generally shipped at the risk of the farmer or planter, inasmuch as his being paid depends upon the success of the enterprise. A new state of things exist here, and all over the world, that baffles the theories of political economists. It is not now so much an enquiry, how we came into our present difficulties, as how we can get out of them. It is not whether the banks have, of their own accord, extended their business too much, or whether they have been induced by the solicitations, or the high premiums offered by the government. It appears to me that by mutual concession on the part of those who differ in opinion as to the time when specie payments should be resumed, a period might be fixed on, at which it would be convenient for the banks to commence at one. If that be done, it would be perfectly safe, let the time be when it may; and I have no hesitation in saying, it should be fixed by congress. If congress adhere to the 20th of February, I hope the State authorities will co-operate, and enforce the payment on that day throughout America. I do not see that any purpose, state or national, would be answered by Virginia preceding the general government, and the other States, three or four months; on the contrary, I anticipate a very calamitous state of things from it to Virginia. If you concur in these sentiments, there can be no doubt of the propriety of the legislature being convened at this time. If

you do not, you will proceed with the ordinary business of the State; and, I flatter myself, the time of meeting will not be attended with personal inconvenience to any of the members of either house.

I am confirmed in the opinion expressed by me to the last assembly, that our militia-system is radically defective.—The service under it is more burthensome to the people, less efficient, and more expensive than it ought to be. It is out of the power of the State to make the necessary changes, without interfering with the powers of the general government. I have no disposition, and it would not become me, in addressing you, to speak disrespectfully of that government; but the subject is so deeply interesting, in all respects, that I cannot forbear to say, that they will not perform their duty to the nation, unless they provide a better system than we now have. In this opinion, I think all must concur, when it is remembered that the defence of our country depends in a great measure, upon the militia, and that the general defence was a primary object in the establishment of the constitution of the United States. It appears to me, that this is the moment when a new organization of the militia should be attempted. Our late experience of the defects of the existing laws, enable us to provide the remedy, and a new organization being made in time of peace, takes away all pretence of inequality and hardship. If, from the diversity of views, situation and habits in different States, congress cannot agree upon a general militia-system, acceptable to all the States, it would seem to be necessary that, by an amendment to the constitution, the power of organizing the militia should be restored to the States, leaving to the general government the power necessary to employ that species of force in the manner prescribed in the constitution of the United States.

The enclosed papers (marked N. 2.) are copies of my letters to the president of the United States, to the governors of the States, interested in the navigation of the Chesapeake; and to the members of congress from this State upon that highly important subject. There cannot be a doubt, but that an object, so deeply interesting to so great a portion of America, will be pursued until it is attained. I am sure Pennsylvania, Maryland, North-Carolina, Virginia, and some of the Western States, should never lose sight of it. From the president's answer, it will be seen that he concurs fully in the views of the general assembly.

Believing the public property directed to be sold for the improvement of the capitol-square, and the repairs of the capitol, would not, if sold for cash, command its value, it was determined to sell that property upon credit.

Owing to this circumstance, we have not been able to proceed with the improvements as rapidly as it was wished, as most of the work required prompt payment. Contracts are, however, made, the materials preparing, and it is expected the whole will be accomplished in the course of the next year. The expenditures that have been made, were defrayed by advances made by the banks, upon an assurance of reimbursement out of the money, for which the property sold. The common-hall in this city, has done every thing in its power to facilitate our operations, and contributed largely to the improvement of the square.

In executing the law "To provide an accurate

chart of each county, and a general map of the territory of the commonwealth," no progress has been made in that part of it which relates to county charts. The contracts entered into by the county courts, have been at a rate far beyond what was believed reasonable; and the greatest disproportion appears in the compensation allowed in different counties. There are few contracts below \$1000, and most of them from 1200 to \$4,000. These prices were believed to be greatly more than the value of the service, and vastly more than the legislature contemplated. Many of the courts have not yet forwarded contracts. The time allowed by the law to make engagements for the charts, not having expired, it was thought best that the executive should delay the execution of the power given to them in case of the contracts not being confirmed, until all should be received; because it was believed it would be better to contract with the same persons to make the charts of several counties, both with a view to accuracy and economy. The surveys of the exterior boundaries of the State, the rivers and principal mountains, have been contracted for, and are in a course of execution, except in the northwestern district.

I lost no time in communicating to the Honorable Bushrod Washington, the request of the Legislature, to permit the remains of the late General George Washington, to be removed from the family vault at Mount Vernon, to be re-interred in the city of Richmond. I regret extremely that Mr. Washington was constrained, by a sense of duty, to his illustrious uncle, to withhold his assent to the request, and beg leave to suggest that this circumstance need not, and a hope that it will not, prevent the assembly from erecting the monument, and that it will be done in the manner proposed; that every Virginian may have the high gratification of contributing to "this spontaneous offering of a nation's gratitude." No. 3 contains my correspondence with Mr. Washington.

Your vote of thanks to the officers of the navy and army, who were natives of this state, and distinguished in the late war, was communicated to them. The papers marked No. 4, are my letters and their answers.

Under the superintendence of Mr. Chew, the settlement of our accounts with the United States is going on at Washington. From the mass of similar business, and our accounts being so voluminous, it has been impracticable to give such dispatch as was wished. I understand that every facility is afforded on the part of the United States that we could expect. A further advance of \$350,000 has been made by the United States on account.—In consequence of the employment of Mr. Chew, the former military accountant, at Washington, the duties of that office have been attached to the Quarter-Master-General's Department, under the act of 10th of January, 1815. It is hoped that in a short time the accounts of a military nature will be closed, or in such a state that the auditor will be able, as formerly, to manage all the accounts of the State.—It is submitted, however, to the legislature, to determine, whether it will not be best to continue this establishment upon its present footing for some time, with a view to expedite the adjustment of our accounts with the United States. The treasury notes, received last winter from the United States, were held until they could be disposed of at their no-

minal value, when they were applied as the law directed.

I beg leave to refer the general assembly to a communication made by me at the last session, upon the subject of the compensation of the keeper of the penitentiary, and his assistants, and to suggest the propriety of making some addition to the building. It is required both for the health, and the more profitable employment of the convicts.

During the recess of the legislature, the State was deprived of the services of Judge Dabney, by death.—William Daniel, Esq. who had resigned his seat on the bench of the general court, was appointed to fill the vacancy. James Semple, Esq. who had likewise resigned, was appointed to fill the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Daniel, and Griffin Stith, Esq. was appointed to supply the vacancy occasioned by the resignation of Judge Semple.

Finding it impossible to procure seasoned timber to make gun-carriages, measures have been taken to obtain such timber as is proper for that use, to be laid up until it is thoroughly seasoned, to be used as occasion may require. I trust we have every reason to look forward to a long peace, but experience proves that the only guarantee for peace is a state of preparation for war.

The state of the jails merits the most serious attention of the legislature. In many cases the accommodation afforded is such, as to be unfit for a convicted felon; certainly not suited to a man who may be confined for debt, or upon suspicion of having committed an offence.—The humanity of a nation and the character of the government may perhaps be justly estimated by the treatment of those who are in the custody of the law; nor is our national character only involved;—the cost of guarding persons in confinement amounts to a very large sum annually; the accumulation of this expense for a few years would build the necessary jails, and even where it is incurred, there are instances of the most atrocious offenders escaping. In the course of the present year a very considerable sum has been paid for guarding and apprehending persons charged with crimes who have escaped from jail, notwithstanding which several have baffled every effort to retake them.

The change of our judicial system from the district to the circuit courts having been made chiefly to accommodate the people of every county; nothing can be more reasonable than, that the counties should be subject to the expense of providing jails, adapted to the health, the comfort, and the safe-keeping of persons in the custody of the law.

The illustrious and patriotic citizens who planned and accomplished our revolution, can never be rivalled in the affections of their countrymen. Next to them in the estimation of future generations, will rank those who shall contribute most to the establishment of a system of public education; which may give to the commonwealth the greatest command of men of talents, and to our citizens the best prospect of individual happiness. No system will do this, unless provision is made for the education of those whose parents are unable to defray the expense of it. Genius is not the offspring of wealth alone; if it exists in the child of the poorest man in the commonwealth, let it be cultivated at the public expense; make it a national property, that it may be a national benefit.



Next in importance to this first and great object, is the execution of the design of the last assembly for the internal improvement of Virginia: A subject which combines the interest, the feelings and the love of country of every man in every part of the State. The last assembly gained, and deservedly, great applause by their attention to those all-important subjects. It could not be expected that systems so new and comprehensive, could be perfected at once; much remains to be done; you, gentlemen, and your successors, may have an opportunity of participating in the high gratification, of aiding in giving to your country the great advantages to be derived from the completion of designs which promise such solid and incalculable benefits.

I avail myself of this opportunity to make my acknowledgments to my fellow-citizens, for the confidence they have so frequently reposed in me, and to announce my intention to retire from the office of chief magistrate at the expiration of the year for which I was elected. I trust this will not be considered a dereliction of duty, as there are so many of my fellow-citizens much better qualified to serve the commonwealth. This consideration, and the necessity I am under, (after having devoted the greater part of the last thirty-three years to the public service,) to employ more of my time in the care of a numerous family, than is permitted by the duties of my present office, will, I hope, be a sufficient apology for this determination.

Before I take my leave of you, permit me to observe, that all who are or may be employed in the general or State governments, are in a situation of great responsibility. By the divine permission, and the valor of our ancestors, the fetters prepared for them were broken, and our independence achieved. With a boldness and sagacity, that will immortalize the patriots, who framed our government, they built the holy fabric upon the basis of equal rights, and real responsibility. The eyes of all mankind are upon us; the whole human race is interested in the result. Since the downfall of the ancient republics, an opinion has been inculcated with solicitude, that a government, emanating from, and responsible to the people, was not practicable. Not satisfied with depriving the people of their political rights, the manner in which they should serve their Maker, has been prescribed to them in most countries. To the American people, belongs the glory of restoring to man his inestimable and natural rights. Forty years experience under a government established by the people, the legislative and executive branches of which are elected for short periods, and in which there is not only a perfect toleration of religious opinions, but a complete separation of church and State, must convince the most sceptical, that it is a libel upon the people, to say, they are not capable of self-government. The tranquility, happiness and prosperity of America, and the competence of our government to the defence of the country, disprove the aspersions upon popular governments. To entitle us to the gratitude of all mankind, and to secure to our posterity the great blessings we enjoy, we have only to cherish the ardent patriotism, the veneration for the institutions of our ancestors, obedience to the laws, and affection for the Union, for which my fellow citizens have been so much distinguished. That this will be done, I have no

doubt. Our interest, our fame and our principles require it of us. To the latest period of my life, my prayers will be incessant to the Supreme Ruler of the Universe, to continue to my countrymen the enjoyment of the civil, political and religious liberty they now possess.

WILSON CARY NICHOLAS.

#### LEGISLATURE OF MASSACHUSETTS.

On Wednesday the 13th inst. the legislature of Massachusetts met agreeably to appointment. Quorums of both houses being assembled, committees were appointed to inform the governor that they were ready to receive any communication he might think proper to make. His excellency met both branches at 12 o'clock, and delivered the following

#### SPEECH.

*Gentlemen of the Senate, and*

*Gentlemen of the House of Representatives,*

The special purpose of our convening at this season being the choice of electors of President of the United States, agreeably to a resolve that passed on the 13th day of June last, no suggestion of mine will be necessary to induce you to enter upon the execution of that important duty with all the deliberation which a due regard to the national interests and the honor of Massachusetts can demand.—The duty is not only important as the ultimate result of it may respect individuals, but as the continuance of the national government depends upon the choice of electors, the obligation to perform it is imperious. The mode indeed being optional, a diversity in practice among the different States, and in the same State at different times, may be expected. But while the great, the imperative demand of the constitution, in this particular, is fulfilled by the State legislatures, agreeably to the dictates of their best judgment, there can be little ground for the apprehension of mischief in a discretionary selection of a constitutional mode.

Among the subjects which may probably solicit your attention at the present time, the question respecting the separation of the District of Maine may not be viewed as the least important. The people of the two sections of the State, between whom the question of separation is pending, were generally derived from the same origin, and were educated in the same principles of civil and religious liberty, and they and their fathers freely commingled their blood in combatting for their country's independence, and with one accord united in framing the existing forms of government. And while they have been highly respectable as a whole, they have been mutually satisfied and happy in the relation of members, brethren of the same family. May no root of bitterness spring up to alienate their affections, whether united or separate. Judging from the ingenuous and dispassionate manner in which the subject has been hitherto discussed in your respective houses, we may confidently hope that wisdom will mark its future progress, influenced as you undoubtedly will be, by a due respect for the interests and happiness of the people in both sections of the commonwealth, and under the guidance of a spirit of candour and moderation, there can exist no cause to awaken our apprehensions of an inauspicious result.

A resolve that passed the legislature on the 15th of June last, authorized and requested the governor, with the advice of council, to appoint one or more persons, at his discretion, and at such time and manner as he might deem expedient, to present the accounts and claims of this commonwealth for military services rendered, supplies and munitions of war furnished, labour performed and expenses incurred during the late war with Great Britain, and arising in consequence thereof, to the government of the United States for allowance, and to settle and adjust the same.

The subject of this resolve was, immediately after it had passed, submitted to the council, and after due consideration, a postponement of the appointment of an agent or agents for the purposes expressed in the resolve, was advised. The advice of council was understood to be grounded upon the opinion, that some special legislative provision of the national government, was requisite to the settlement of our accounts at the war office. If I mistake not, the report of the then secretary of war, made to Congress in March last, is decisive on this point. The correctness of the advice of council has since been supported by a coincident opinion of all the members of Congress whom I have had an opportunity of consulting upon the subject under consideration. That you may be fully possessed of the measures which had been adopted prior to the passing of the resolve of the 15th June last, the secretary will lay before you a copy of the proceedings of the council the last year, resorted to with the design of having the amount and the items of our accounts and claims against the United States brought into the view of the general government.

It will now rest with your wisdom, gentlemen, to allow the subject to progress in the course contemplated by the resolve last mentioned, or give it some other direction which you may deem more eligible.

I have received from the hon. James Monroe, Esq. secretary of state, a letter dated the 25th of October last, communicating the agreeable information, that lands belonging to some of the citizens of Massachusetts on Moose-Island, which had been withheld from them by the orders of the governor general of Canada, had recently, by the interposition of the national executive, been restored to them. A copy of the letter I have instructed the secretary to lay before you.

I have at the same time, the satisfaction of communicating to you, gentlemen, a copy of a letter I have received from the ordnance department of the United States, by which I am informed, that where arms and equipments may be found due to a State, on the apportionment of its quota, according to law, the ordnance department is desirous, and will be prepared to supply the same without delay. According to a return made to me by the quarter master general, I find the commonwealth has received only thirty-one hundred muskets, without any equipments, since the law of the United States appropriating \$200,000 annually for arming and equipping the whole body of the militia, was passed, on the twenty-third of April, 1808. We may therefore, I apprehend, confidently look forward to the period when we shall not only receive the number of arms now due to us, but when the ranks of our militia may be relieved from the present burden that falls heavily upon a large proportion of them, of furnishing their own

arms and equipments for the public defence. The balance due to Massachusetts, I am unable to ascertain, as the data upon which the ratio is to be deduced, are not within my control. But the necessary measures are in train for ascertaining and receiving the amount. While on this subject, I would suggest for your consideration, the propriety of authorizing and directing the quarter master general to cause all the muskets belonging to the State to be designated by an appropriate mark or stamp.

The annual return of the militia made by the adjutant general, and four returns from the quarter master general, marked Nos. 1, 2, 3 and 4 will be laid before you by the secretary. On referring to the return of the militia, I am led to mention to you, gentlemen, that in the course of the past autumn I have had an opportunity of seeing a considerable number of the regiments and brigades of the militia of this commonwealth, and it is but doing justice to them to observe that their arms were efficient and in good order, that their appearance was generally highly martial, and their movements correct. It is likewise due to the liberality and wisdom of the legislatures of several former periods to observe, that much of the regularity of the militia, of the uniformity of their discipline, and of the intelligence of their officers, is to be ascribed to the system of discipline and other means of information, that have been placed at the public expense, at different times, in the hands of the officers.

In conclusion, I avail myself of the occasion, gentlemen, to felicitate you upon the continuance of peace, upon the prevalence of good order, the restoration of public credit and the general aspect of prosperity, contentment and happiness, which our country exhibits. Commerce, if not exempt from restrictions which other times and different conditions of the world did not impose, employs an immense capital, and demands, and circulates all the surplus products of our country.

Immunity from embarrassments at the termination of a war unequalled in modern times, in duration, that had subverted the principles of social order, of political economy and regular commerce through a great part of the civilized world, was utterly impossible. After such an arduous and dreadful conflict, time is necessary to tranquilize the world; to allow the faculties of men duly to estimate the new relations that peace has produced among the nations—and for individuals to accommodate their feelings, views and habits to the actual state of things. Happy will it be for us if we learn wisdom from experience; if from the force of circumstances we are taught the value of circumspection and economy, of industry and moderation.

Wishing, you, gentlemen, all the satisfaction that can result from faithful endeavors to render your constituents happy, I only add a tender of any facilities in my power to aid your efforts.

J. BROOKS.

#### FINANCIAL.

The following documents were read in the Virginia house of Delegates, on the 12th inst. as reported by the bank committee, on the question for suspending the law compelling the banks to pay specie on the 15th inst.



*General State of the Farmers' Bank of Virginia (including Branches) on the 11th Nov. 1816.*

Bills discounted outstanding,	\$3,053,222 28
Specie,	907,615 20
Foreign notes,	233,313 57
Due from other banks	256,950 69
Loan to the Commonwealth of Virginia,	99,000
Real Estate,	77,950 66
United States' stock,	98,716 38

**\$4,726,768 78**

Stock,	\$1,812,427 50
Notes in circulation,	2,150,015 98
Discount,	77,082 1
Deposit money	687,243 29

**\$4,726,768 78***General State of the Bank of Virginia, Nov. 8, 1816.*

Bills discounted,	\$3,075,223 71
Specie,	791,300 97
Foreign notes and Treasury notes,	157,639 83
Bills receivable,	286,352
Real estate,	112,612
United States' stock,	268,632 40
Loan to Commonwealth,	152,000
Due from foreign banks,	139,887 41
Bills of exchange,	49,600

**\$5,033,248 32**

Capital stock,	\$2,340,000
Notes in circulation,	1,459,289 67
Deposits,	1,233,958 65

**\$5,033,248 32****LAW OF NEW-YORK.****TO SUPPRESS DUELLING.**

Passed November 5, 1816.

*Be it enacted by the people of the state of New-York, represented in Senate and Assembly,* That if any person whatsoever shall challenge another to fight a duel with any weapon, or in any manner whatsoever, the probable issue of which may or might result in the death of the challenger or challenged, or if any person shall accept a challenge or fight a duel with any weapon or in any way whatsoever, the probable issue of which may or might terminate in the death of the challenger or challenged, or if any person shall knowingly be the bearer of any challenge or message sent for the purpose of requesting or inviting any other person to meet the person so sending such challenge or message or any other person, with intent to fight any such duel, such person shall be deemed guilty of a public offence, and being convicted thereof, shall be incapable of holding or being elected to any post of profit, trust or emolument, civil or military, under this state.

*And be it further enacted,* That every person who shall hereafter be elected a member of the senate or of the assembly of this state, and from and after the first day of July next, every person who shall be elected or appointed to any office or place, civil or military, under this state, except town officers, and every person who shall be admitted a counsellor, attorney, or solicitor of the court of chancery, supreme court, or any court of

common pleas, or mayor's court in this state, shall, in addition to the oath or oaths now prescribed by law, take the following oath or affirmation:—"I do solemnly swear or affirm, (as the case may be) that I have not been engaged in a duel by sending or accepting a challenge to fight a duel, or by fighting a duel, or in any other manner in violation of the act, entitled "an act to suppress duelling," since the first day of July, in the year of our Lord one thousand eight hundred and sixteen, nor will I be concerned directly or indirectly, in any duel during the continuance of the said act, and while an inhabitant of this state;" and that if any person taking such oath shall wilfully swear falsely therein, such person shall, on conviction thereof, be liable to the like pains and penalties as those who are convicted of wilful and corrupt perjury.

*And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the justices of the courts of oyer and terminer and general gaol delivery, and general sessions of the peace, at every session, to give in charge to the grand jury of the county in which either of the said courts shall be held, to enquire of all offences committed against this act.

*And be it further enacted,* That whenever any judge or justice of the peace shall have good cause to suspect that any person or persons are about to be engaged in a duel, he shall issue his warrant to bring such person or persons before him, and if he shall think it proper, to take of them or either of them, a recognizance to keep the peace, he shall insert in the condition, that the party or parties shall not, during the time for which he or they shall be bound, direct or indirectly be concerned in a duel, either with the person suspected or with any other person, within the time limited by the recognizance.

*And be it further enacted,* That if an person shall, for the purpose of eluding the operations of the provisions of this law, leave the state, the person so offending shall be deemed as guilty, and be subject to the like penalties as if the offence had been committed within this state; and if any person shall leave this state with the intention of giving or receiving a challenge to fight a duel, or of aiding or abetting in giving or receiving such challenge, and a duel shall actually be fought, whereby the death of any person shall happen, and the person so leaving the state shall remain thereout, so as to prevent his apprehension for the purpose of a trial; or if any person shall fight a duel in this state, or aid or abet therein, whereby any person shall be killed, and then flee into another state, it shall be the duty of the person administering the government of this state, to pursue all legal means to cause such offender to be apprehended and brought to trial in the county in which the offence was committed when the duel hath been fought within this state; and when it shall have been fought without this state, then in that county, where, in the opinion of the person administering the government of this state, the evidence against the offender can be best obtained and produced upon his trial.

*And be it further enacted,* That it shall be the duty of the several district attornies within this state to give information to the person administering the government of this state, whenever a case shall arise within their respective districts, rendering his interposition under this act necessary; and each of the said district attornies, either

at the first court of general sessions of the peace to be held in his district after the first day of July next, or at the time of his acceptance of his office where such district attorney shall be hereafter appointed, shall take the following oath: "I do solemnly swear or affirm (as the case may be) that I will, to the best of my ability, execute the duty imposed on me by the act to suppress duelling."

And be it further enacted, That from and after the first day of July next, the act entitled "an act to prevent duelling," be, and the same is hereby repealed.

## AGRICULTURAL.

### ECONOMY OF PLANTING POTATOES.

Mr. Kollock,

Sir—As it is an opinion with many that potatoes will yield best to change the seed and plant the largest, therefore I made the following experiment:—

Last fall I sent to Albany for some of the best red potatoes, which were very good and large; and on the 26th of April planted one row containing nineteen hills, in which I put one potatoe to a hill, (larger than a goose-egg, weighing in the whole 8 lbs.) and put a shovel full of fine manure in each; and when dug, the above 8 lbs. of the largest potatoes produced 54½ lbs.

The next row I planted with cut potatoes, of the same kind, putting five pieces in a hill, the whole of which weighed 4 lbs. and manured in the same manner as above, and they produced 50 lbs. as did several other rows in the same patch.

And on the 15th of May I peeled five of the largest of the above potatoes, carefully digging out the eyes about the size of a cent, which I planted in three rows of sixteen feet long, putting the eyes eight or nine inches apart, and the rows three feet, which contained about half a rod of ground; it produced one bushel and nine quarts (weighing 78 lbs.) of good sized potatoes, many of which weighed from eight to ten ounces, and but a very few small ones. This ground received no manure.

Yours, &c.

RICHARDSON GRAY.

P. S. The whole and cut potatoes were planted in a light sandy soil, and the eyes in a damp soil; and, as the odds is so great, I think no one will hesitate to follow the plan, as it is a saving of near all their seed.

Elizabethtown, Oct. 21, 1816.

## CULINARY ECONOMY.

### METHOD OF PRESERVING BEEF.

Sort your beef, let it be cold, but not frozen. To 200 wt. use half a bushel of salt, half a pound of salt-petre, and two quarts of molasses. Dissolve your salt petre in water, and add the molasses—then pack down your beef tight, put salt in your barrel, and between each layer; and let a suitable proportion of the salt-petre and molasses be put on each layer, till all is put together—reserving four or five quarts of salt to make a brine, sufficient to cover the beef, which must be added in four or five days, and your beef will be good through the year. When you salt beef again, use the same process—10, 11, or 12 quarts of salt will be enough—but keep your old brine, and in 4 or 5 days add it without boiling, as that will in-

jure it very much. I have tried this method three years, and the beef has been sweet and good.

WILLIAM SLADE.

Cornwall, Vt. Oct. 22, 1816.

## THE FINE ARTS.

*Christ Entering Jerusalem.*—Col. Henry Sargent, has nearly completed his large painting upon the subject of the entrance of Christ into Jerusalem mounted on an ass, the multitude spreading their garments, and strewing branches in the way. The composition and arrangement of this picture we think will do great credit to the artist; the grouping of the numerous figures, the harmony of colouring, the bold expression of hatred among the Jews, and the humble adoration of the Christians, are executed with equal felicity and judgement. The canvass is of exactly the same size as that of "the landing of the Forefathers," which was exhibited during the last year; and we hope Col. Sargent will soon be able to favour the public, by affording them an equal gratification.

An engraving designed and executed by Mr. Kidder, of the effects of the great Storm of last September, as they appeared at Providence near the bridge, is now to be viewed in Boston; it exhibits a very faithful representation of the distressing scenes, and the confusion of the occasion and violence of the wind are well delineated.—The execution of the plate though respectable is rather too coarse, and besides requires some accompanying explanation of the particulars which it is intended to exhibit.—*Boston Intelligencer.*

## A NEW THERMOMETER.

We have seen lately a Thermometer, which was invented and made by an artist in Copenhagen of very extraordinary workmanship—and upon a principle which, although well known, has never before been employed for this purpose. This Thermometer is in form similar to a watch, and is entirely composed of different metals without any fluid.—These metals are so combined as by every contraction and expansion to move an index in like manner as the hour or minute hand of a time piece—which index points to a division of a circle corresponding to Reaumur's scale. This index we were informed showed the alterations of heat and cold more sensibly than even the best quicksilver Thermometers.

[Lynchburg Press.

## FOREIGN INTELLIGENCE.

NEW-ORLEANS, October 19.

The following articles have been handed for publication by a gentleman recently from Matagorda: they were originally written in Spanish, and, the translation having been made hastily, may be deficient in precision of style, but is literally accurate.

*New establishment at Matagorda, and Galveston, in the province of Texas, appertaining to the government of Mexico.*

A small squadron, well armed and equipped, under the command of M. Aury, has taken possession of the posts of Matagorda and Galveston. This squadron being the property of the said commander, had, for a considerable time, been engaged in promoting the independence of South America, under the flag of Carthage. During the

siege of that place, they had fought gallantly against the Spaniards, and protected the besieged as much as was in their power, until they were reduced to the inevitable necessity of emigrating. On the fall of Carthagena, M. Aury, with all the officers under his command, offered their services to the republic of Mexico, from which he obtained authority to cruise, and permission to occupy the posts of Matagorda and Galveston, whither he went under a passport from the late governor of Carthagena. This expedition just arrived at its destination, when some turbulent persons, exclusively occupied with their own interests and incapable of rendering any service to humanity, began to spread rumors in order to seduce and alarm the faithful and more numerous part of the division, endeavoring to persuade them that they had not come thither with the noble object of assisting the Mexican patriots, engaged in the glorious contest for their liberty, but that their sole object was, to compel them by force to undergo the drudgery of cultivating the sugar-cane. By this means they drew from them a considerable number of partizans, and, by exciting a mutiny at the camp, they would have strangled in its birth this important establishment, had it not been for some prudent and brave men, who opposed the mutineers, and obliged them to take flight in three vessels, which they had previously prepared, in case they should be defeated in attaining their object. They stole and carried with them some merchandize, and were accompanied by about 200 malcontents; this was all the injury produced by the commotion. Two days afterwards the Mexican minister arrived with an ample supply of military stores for the purpose of organizing the establishment, conformably to the powers and instruction given to him by the republic. He was received as its deputy, and the oaths of obedience and fidelity were received by him from the commander and his officers. The rest of the forces had taken the same oaths before their respective officers, and raised the Mexican flag with all the usual ceremonies. The minister has issued the following

#### DECREE.

*Citizen Joseph Manuel de Herrera, Deputy of the Mexican Republic.*

By virtue of the powers and instructions given to me by the Mexican congress, I order and command that, until the said congress shall sanction a form of government more conducive to the welfare and happiness of this province of Texas, the following articles relative to the establishment of Matagorda and Galveston shall be observed. The constitutional decree respecting settlements and villages in the rest of the province, remains in full force;

1. There shall be a civil and military governor, who shall discharge his functions agreeably to the laws and ordinances enacted by the republic, and shall obey the supreme executive power of the nation: there shall likewise be a secretary to certify the acts of the governor.

2. There shall be a collector of the revenue and a treasurer, subordinate to the governor, who shall obey the acts and decrees of the congress; the governor shall appoint the under officers necessary to the due administration of the treasurer's office.

3. There shall be a court of admiralty, taking cognizance of cases falling under its jurisdic-

tion, judging and deciding according to the laws of nations and of the admiralty, with a clerk to certify the acts of the tribunal.

4. There shall be a judge to act in civil and criminal cases. His jurisdiction shall extend in civil cases to all sums not exceeding one hundred dollars, and in criminal cases his powers shall extend no further than to imprisonment: there shall be a clerk to this court, which may be denominated the tribunal of justice.

5. There shall be a superior judge, with his clerk—this judge shall take cognizance of cases of appeal as well from the inferior tribunal of justice, as from the court of admiralty; his jurisdiction shall also extend to all sums above the one mentioned in the preceding article, and to criminal cases where the punishment may exceed imprisonment, observing the 198th article of the constitution, relative to sentences of death and banishment: there shall be an appeal from this court to the supreme tribunal, according to the rules prescribed by the laws of the republic.

6. There shall be a notary public to authenticate all contracts, writings, powers, and other similar instruments, and an alguazil mayor to execute sales, seizures and other orders of the court.

7. The governor shall determine, according to circumstances, a place between Matagorda and Galveston, for his residence, and that of the officers appointed for the new establishment.

Given in Galveston, the 17th day of September, 1816, and 7th of Mexican independence.

JOSEPH MANUEL HERRERA.

A. M. MORIN,

*Secretary ad interim to the legation.*

In consequence of this decree the following appointments were made:

Governor of this new establishment, citizen *Louis Aury*.

Judge of admiralty, citizen *Joseph Torrens*.

Clerk of the court, citizen *Vincent Veros*.

Notary public, citizen *Gabriel Torrens*.

Treasurer, citizen *John Peter Rousselin*.

Alguazil mayor, citizen *Jean Baptiste Dumontis-seaux*.

Several considerations have induced the governor and the authorities, to take up their residence for the present at Galveston; a detachment of soldiers will remain at Matagorda to protect the natives of the province who are uniting at that place. The Spaniards at La Bahin and St. Antonio have received orders to retreat to the Rio del Horte; where it appears they are determined to make a stand.

#### PROCLAMATION.

*Joseph Manuel de Herrera, in the name of the Mexican Republic.*

Matagorda is ours. The extensive and healthy province of Texas is free; its inhabitants, filled with enthusiasm, fly to the standard of independence. The constitution of the Mexican republic has superseded the despotism of the Spanish monarchy. The oppressors fly before us; there is no obstacle to retard our march into the interior of the other provinces. A commodious and safe harbor; a respectable land and naval force; magazines well supplied with arms and ammunition; a soil fertile in all the necessaries of life—we want nothing but to exterminate our enemies, and drive the miserable remnant into the ocean. The



troops of the republic advance in every direction; the bands of the tyrant, which infest the provinces of Vera Cruz and Oaxaca, will soon be defeated and driven out. In a short time, the flag of Spain will float no longer on the Gulf of Mexico.

Countrymen, you may now accumulate the valuable productions of our soil, if you wish to exchange them for the fruits of foreign industry. Our commerce shall be open to all the world, under a system founded on principles of equity.

Inhabitants of Texas! be proud that you have been taken under the protection of the constitution of the republic. Show yourselves worthy of the rank to which you have been elevated. Fan the sacred flame of liberty, just kindled in the bosoms of our hitherto unfortunate brethren, just emancipated from the chains of despotism. Such conduct will be crowned with the blessings of heaven. Obey the laws; comply faithfully and exactly with your contracts; display to the world the honor, humanity and generosity of your character. Cultivate with the utmost care, a brotherly intercourse and friendship with the republic of the north; abstain from all illegal commerce, especially within the United States; every violation of the laws shall be punished with inflexible severity. Smugglers and pirates shall suffer death. The friend of liberty, the oppressed and the brave, shall always find a home and country among the people of Mexico. We will receive with open arms all who respect our laws and our independence.

JOSEPH M. DE HERRERA.

18th September, 1816, 7th year of Mexican independence.

NOTE.—The installation of officers and the publication of the laws and organization of the government will take place immediately.

#### *Negotiation of General Lavaysse at Hayti.*

This transaction has been grossly misrepresented. General L. has been made, by forged letters or sentences of letters, to appear as an enemy to liberty. The truth is that gen. Lavaysse obeyed the orders of his government, and served his country, faithfully. In the discharge of his duty however, he won the esteem of the president Petion, with whom he has ever since maintained a friendly correspondence.

We have seen the original letter of which the following is an extract.—We have also an authenticated extract in French; but deem it sufficient to publish a faithful translation. We know not whether it is more honourable to the writer or the addressed. Both are men of superior minds; both are friends of freedom, and both will be distinguished in the annals of the times, in the various walks of science, historical researches, or the profession of arms.

Columbian.

(TRANSLATION.)

Port-au Prince, June 21, 1816.

I had already received by Mr. Colombel your letters dated from Paris and I know by every thing he related to me of you, what you had been so good as to do, say & write, in favor of our country and of our institutions. I see with a new pleasure, general, by the contents of your last despatch, that you have continued true to the sentiments you professed in our behalf, and that you still continue to plead, in presence of all governments, our

cause—which is also the cause of reason, justice, and humanity.

In whatever country and situation the present events may place you, it will be always honorable and glorious to you, and even consoling, to have employed your pen, and the talents you possess, to batter down an order of things as absurd and revolting in its principles as odious and atrocious in its consequences. In devoting yourself to the defence of the grand principles of public morals, of the sacred cause which guarantees to man the dignity of his being, you have acquired claims to the gratitude of that portion of human kind, oppressed for so many years by a monstrous mercantile combination: you have placed yourself in the honorable rank of those virtuous philanthropists who never ceased to plead before the tribunal of reason the holy cause of humanity: true apostles of liberty and benefactors of the earth, the memory of these men recommendable in many other respects, will be blessed from generation to generation. We shall delight to recollect that it is they, who, by an active perseverance, by a profound erudition, and by dint of all the force of reason, have caused truth to triumph over the errors and prejudices that were smothering it; and by so doing have given a death-blow to the stupid and barbarous egotism of that *cast* of men incrustated with ignorance: vile & contemptible blood suckers, who love nothing so much as fattening on the substance of their fellow creatures.

It is agreeable to me, general, to have an opportunity to express the sentiments with which I have been inspired towards you by the liberal principles you profess, &c. &c.

(Signed)

A. PETION.

General Lavaysse.

#### NEAPOLITAN DECREE.

The following is the Neapolitan decree, allowing the free importation of grain:—

“Ferdinand IV. by the grace of God, king of the “Two Sicilies, &c.

“Having seen the report of our minister of state, secretary of finance, we have decreed, and do decree as follows:—

Art. I. Wheat, barley, and oats, imported from abroad, through all the custom-houses in our kingdom shall be exempt from all duty on importation—any regulation to the contrary in our tariff notwithstanding.

Art. II. The grain mentioned in the preceding article shall be subjected merely in our city of Naples to the duty on consumption, in like manner as in the provinces to the communal duties, where such shall exist, so that, however, such foreign grain shall not be subject to any other tax on consumption than such as wheat, barley, and oats, produce of our kingdom, are subject to.

(Signed)

FERDINAND.

(Countersigned) THOMASO DI SOMMA,

Secretary of State.

Naples, May 5, 1816.

#### M. DE CHATEAUBRIAND'S WORK.

Preface.—If when only a private citizen, I considered myself bound, on certain important occasions, to raise my voice and speak to my country, what ought I not to do now? As a peer and minister of France, have I not far more rigorous du-

ies to perform, and ought not my efforts for my king to be in proportion to the honors he has bestowed on me?

As a peer of France it is my duty to declare the truth to France, and I will declare it.

As a minister, it is my duty to declare the truth to the king, and I will declare it.

If the council, of which I have the honor to be a member, were sometimes assembled, it might be said to me—"Speak in the council;" but that council does not meet. I have therefore been obliged to resort to other means to make my humble remonstrances be heard, and to fulfil my duty as a minister.

Had I need to prove by example that men in place have the right of writing on matters of state, such examples would not be wanting; I should find several in France, and England would furnish a long series. From Bolingbroke to Burke, I could cite a great number of lords, of members of the house of commons, and members of the privy council, who have written on politics, and in direct opposition to the ministerial system adopted in their country.

Shall it indeed be said, that if France appear to be menaced with new misfortunes: if legitimacy appear to me in danger, I must be silent, because I am a minister and peer of state! On the contrary, it is my duty to point out the danger, to fire the signal of distress and call for help. For this reason I have for the first time in my life signed my titles, in order to announce my duties, and to add, if I can, to this work, the weight of my political rank.

These duties are the more imperious, since individual liberty and the liberty of the press are suspended. Who dares, who can speak? Since the title of peer of France, gives me, by virtue of the charter, a sort of inviolability, I ought to make use of it to render to public opinion a portion of my power. This opinion says:—"You have created laws which shackle me; speak for me, since you have deprived me of utterance."

Finally, the public has sometimes lent me a favorable ear! I have some chance of being heard. If then by writing I can do a little good, my conscience bids me still write.

This preface would terminate here, had I not some explanations to make.

The word *royalist*, in this work, is taken in a very extended sense: it embraces all royalists, whatever may be the shades of their opinions, provided their opinions be not dictated by revolutionary moral interests.\*

By *Representative Government*, I understand monarchy, such as it at present exists in France, in England, and in the Lower Countries, whether the strict accuracy of the expression be admitted or not.

When I speak of the faults, the systems, the ordinances, or the plans of law of an administration, I neither do good nor harm to the ministers who composed, or who may now compose such administration. Consequently I have not compared even those administrations in which I had friends. I profess, for example, a particular respect for the chancellor of France. I have frequently had occasion to recognize in him that candour, that uprightness of mind and heart, and that rare probity which distinguished our ancient

\* What I understand by revolutionary moral interests, will be seen in the course of this work.

magistracy. My sentiments for the count de Blacas are well known. I have stated them in my writings, and in my speeches addressed to the chamber of peers. The king has not a more noble nor a more devoted servant than M. de Blacas. He proves even at this moment his ability by the manner in which he conducts the difficult negotiations with which he is charged. Would to God he had exercised a greater influence over the ministry of which he formed a part! But in fact that ministry committed enormous faults, without speaking either of the chancellor or M. Blacas, who, far from participating in the system of the administration, constantly opposed them. In a work, however, in which I discuss the principles of *Representative Monarchy*, I was bound to admit the principle that a ministerial measure is the work of the minister."

#### BONAPARTE.

The following is an extract of a letter from an officer on board of the British ship *Newcastle*, at St. Helena, to his friend in London, dated the 29th of July, 1816. After giving some account of the persons he saw on shore, and of himself, entirely uninteresting to American readers, because they have read the same things a score of times, he proceeds to give the following dialogue, which passed between Napoleon and himself:

N. How old are you Mr. —?—27 years.

N. Are you married?—No.

N. How many years have you been at sea?—12 years.

N. You are a young man to be in so large a ship as the *Newcastle*: pray how many tons does she carry?—Fifteen hundred and thirty-five.

N. What metal does she carry?—Our long guns are 24 pounders, and our carronades 42 pounders—*Mon Dieu!* exclaimed Napoleon.

N. Were you ever on board the French *Egyptienne* I ordered to be built?—Yes.

N. Where is she now?—She is at Plymouth as a receiving ship.

N. Is she as large as the *Newcastle*?—No; not quite so large; the *Newcastle* is 50 guns, the *Egyptienne* is only 48.

N. Do you think, if the *Egyptienne* had guns on her gangways, as you have, and the same weight of metal, you could take her?—Yes, in 15 minutes. The ex-emperor shrugged up his shoulders, and laughed.

N. What chance then would you have with a French 74 gun ship?—If it was blowing hard, so as to prevent her opening her lower deck ports, we would take her, not otherwise.

N. Very good. How long do you think you would be in taking one of the large 38 gun frigates?—Do you mean French? Napoleon smiled and said, No, *American*.—In about ten minutes, Napoleon laughed very heartily, and said, adieu! and went to his carriage, which was waiting for him.

We are badly supplied with provisions here. The arrivals from the Cape are but seldom, and the duty is very laborious. There is a ship on each side of the island, constantly cruising, and guard boats.

#### TOUR IN A BALLOON.

The Limerick Advertiser of Sept. 10, says, "We mentioned in our last the ascent and de-

scent of Mr. Saddler, Jr. in his Balloon, on Monday, at Cork; the following is his own statement:

"I ascended at 20 minutes before 5 o'clock, with the wind moderately from the N. W.—The Balloon on first rising had an unpleasant motion, but soon became steady; being now nearly perpendicular over Cork, I detached a parachute, and being too far distant to be observed waving my hat, I took a banner and waved a last farewell to the shouting crowds. At 10 minutes before 5, the Balloon entered a thick cloud, when the city and adjacent country became obscured from me. The Balloon now was completely inflated, and the gas rushing out of the safety tube, plainly showed me my continued rapid ascent; from my wish that the many friends whom I had a few minutes before left should be further gratified, I determined to descend, and having opened the valve and allowed sufficient gas to escape, the Balloon rapidly descended, when the city and coast extending towards Bantry to the west, and that of Waterford to the east, I distinctly perceived, whilst the harbor of Cork and the interior country, with its various mountains, was a view sublime in the extreme. In order to gratify the spectators and show the power of the machine, I re-ascended and entered a second cloud, at five minutes past five o'clock. I had previously determined not to remain long but to effect my landing about Kingsbella; I now therefore began to make preparations for my descent, by placing my various things in secure places to prevent their being thrown out by the concussion of the car, and at 12 minutes past five, I opened the valve, and began gradually to descend. The car first struck in a grass enclosure, and rebounded into the adjoining field; the wind being mild, and the grappling irons having secured themselves in the hedge, the Balloon soon became secured. The first person who appeared was, I believe, the owner of the farm, who was not a little alarmed; for, although he had ran in a direction towards it, he made a stop at some distance, enquiring where I came from, and it was not without great exertion on my part, in calling, that he was induced to come near. A servant of Mr. Hodder's came up next, followed by numbers of other persons, made himself known to me, and said that if the apparatus was taken to his master's house it should be taken care of. I was kindly invited to Mr. Foote's, where I partook of refreshment, and was provided with a horse to Mr. Hodder's where a bed was prepared, and every accommodation rendered that I could require."

#### DOMESTIC.

##### OUR RELATIONS WITH RUSSIA.

Mr. WIEN, consul of the United States at Riga, arrived at the seat of government on Sunday last, with despatches from Mr. HARRIS, charge des affaires of the United States at the Court of Russia.

Mr. W. we understand, left St. Petersburg about the middle of September: at which time the EMPEROR had left St. Petersburg for Warsaw, on a journey to make some arrangements respecting the internal affairs of his Empire.

Of the contents of Mr. Harris's despatches, we do not pretend to any precise knowledge. It is understood, generally, however, that the arrest

and confinement of Mr. Kosloff, the Russian Consul General, at Philadelphia, by a warrant from a Magistrate of that city, for an imputed criminal offence, had, under the influence of Mr. Daschkoff's representations, created some dissatisfaction in the Imperial Government; which manifested itself in the temporary prohibition of Mr. Harris from attending the Russian court, and in the orders which, it is already understood, have terminated Mr. Daschkoff's mission in this country. These steps were taken, we learn, with evident reluctance on the part of the Emperor, and under an impression that it had been in the power of this government to prevent the arrest—in omitting to do which, there had been a want of that respect justly due to his character and station. The measures which he adopted were intended to evince his sensibility to an imagined wrong, and to give an opportunity, in case of ascertained neglect on our part, for due reparation to be made for it; or for the explanations which the case admitted, if it should appear, as the fact was, there had been none such.

It is understood that, as soon as our government became acquainted with the effect which had been produced at St. Petersburg by the representations of Mr. Daschkoff, Mr. Coles (the late Secretary of the President) was sent in the Prometheus, a public ship, with dispatches to Mr. Harris, embracing such a view of the whole transaction, as actually occurred, and with such unequivocal assurances of the friendly disposition of our government towards Russia, as there was every reason to believe would be entirely satisfactory.

It is with pleasure we now state that from the temper manifested, at the time Mr. Wier left St. Petersburg, by the Imperial Government towards the United States, there is every reason to believe that this affair will be amicably adjusted, and that without any long delay.—*Nat. Int.*

Gen. BERNARD, late a Lieut. General in the French army, is now in this city, and we understand has accepted an appointment in the Engineering Department of our army. We remember the testimonials of his distinguished merit, which were before Congress during the last session. In Europe, General B. is acknowledged to be one of the most distinguished military Engineers of the age, a man of profound learning in most branches of natural philosophy, possessing great firmness of mind and simplicity of manners. In all the late campaigns under Napoleon, he was attached to the military cabinet of the Emperor. Gen. Bernard is the first foreign officer who has been admitted into the military service of the United States. He declined, it has been stated, very flattering overtures from some of the European sovereigns, and tendered his services to our Government; and Congress, appreciating the value of his talents to our military youth, passed a special act for his admission.—*Id.*

##### ST. LOUIS, SEPTEMBER 28.

By several arrivals from the Upper Mississippi and the Lake, we are informed that Major Gratiot of the engineer corps was progressing in building the new fort at Green Bay; he has with him Col. Chambers, and three or four companies. The Fallsavains are said to be peaceably inclined. A party of Winebagoes solicited Col. Chambers to



send off from Green Bay the *big guns*, but were told that the President of the United States ordered them to be placed there, and they could not be removed without his order.

Yesterday we received information from Prairie du Chien that the upper country was overwhelmed with British goods and British traders, from Mackinaw. They are the very same characters who infested this country previous to the late war, the very same gentry who whetted the savage tomahawk, and urged the massacre of our women and children. It is rumored here that this influx of traitors is occasioned by the Indian agent at Mackinaw granting licenses indiscriminately at \$50 each. This measure has thrown into the country more British traders than the government consider expedient, or the agents could consistently with their instructions, permit. By the undue influence of these fellows, the Indians assume very consequential airs, and are intolerably insolent to our citizens, declaring that the English have told them truth, and that the Americans always tell them lies. On the arrival of our traders at Prairie du Chien, they engaged all the Sioux interpreters, so that our traders, with a large amount of goods, were at once frustrated in their pursuits by the intrigues of these wretches, yet red with the blood of our frontier citizens.—Roulette and several other notorious characters of the above mentioned tribe, are on their way to St. Louis and Kaskaskia, for license to trade with the Indians. The policy governor Clark has pursued with the British traders who have applied for license, is calculated to keep those poisonous animals from the Indian tribes in our neighbourhood. We shall wait the decision of governor Edwards on this subject.

#### Creek Indians.

On Wednesday last, a deputation of Creek Indians passed through this place on their way to Washington City. It is supposed that the object of their mission relates to their friendly services, in the late war against the hostile Creeks. Among them, we recognized, with much pleasure, Maj. *M'Intosh*, a half breed, who distinguished himself at the battle of the *Horse Shoe*; and in various little partisan affairs, handsomely displayed his enterprise and bravery.

[*Augusta Chronicle*, 8th inst.

#### FOREIGN SUMMARY.

By the arrival of the ship *Importer*, at New-York, from Liverpool, on the 17th inst. London dates to the 22d, and Liverpool to the 24th have been received, by which it appears that parliament has been further prorogued to the 2d of January. The distillation of spirits from grain has been prohibited in Ireland. It was expected the ports of England would be opened on the 15th November inst. for the free reception of foreign wheat. It is calculated that 130,000 quarters (1,040,000 bushels) of foreign wheat are already under the king's lock, waiting the event of the average on the 15th November.

*Algerine loss.*—It is said the Dey of Algiers has informed the commander of the *Impregnable*, by letter, that he lost 5,000 Janizaries, and from 5 to 6,000 Arabs in the late battles, besides women and children.

A *Leghorn* article says, 'that an abundance of

corn comes in from the Euxine. Our magazines are full; Genoa is also full. Six hundred ships have sailed from the Mediterranean ports to Odessa for corn. About half have come back; the rest wait for their cargoes.'

It is stated by a gentleman from Calais, that the corn along the coast was rotting on the ground, some cut and some uncut, and a scarcity apprehended in consequence, except of oats.

*Bread at Paris.*—The rise in the price of bread at Paris, it is said by a private letter, has occasioned a manifestation among the populace of a disposition to commit violence.

*French Election.*—The election has been concluded and a complete list of the deputies elected to the new chamber had been received with the exception of Corsica and those places where the electoral colleges had been obliged to separate without coming to any result. Of the last chamber 168 of the members have been re-elected, a considerable number of whom are constitutionalists, and 46 out of the 86 presidents of the electoral colleges, appointed by the king, have been chosen deputies.

A mission extraordinary was about to be sent from Vienna to the emperor of Russia. It is said by letters from Hamburg that the French have agreed to restore 10 millions of the 16 millions francs of the money and bullion said to have been seized by Devoust.

The British 58 and 61 regiments have embarked for Jamaica in consequence of fears entertained of an insurrection of the negroes.

*Riots.*—The colliers and miners in Monmouthshire it is said had risen on their employers, and that most serious riots were apprehended. Lord Sidmouth had been sent for from church, a council was forthwith held, orders sent to the war office, and stage coaches, towards the west, detained to carry despatches for the troops to march. The number of rioters are stated to be more than *fifteen thousand*—they had stopped all the furnaces, above 60 in all.

*Patriots.*—It is said by letters from St. Domingo, that privateers are fitting out in every port there, with Buenos Ayres, Margareta, and Venegulian commissioners; and are represented to be superior vessels, well armed and manned by British and American seamen. Gen. Mina, nephew of the celebrated Guerilla general, had arrived there from the United States, in the ship *Caledonia*, accompanied by a schooner with *three thousand* stand of arms, ammunition, field pieces, &c. On board of the *Caledonia* there were about one hundred who had embarked with the general in the cause of the Spanish patriots, one of whom has returned to the United States, and has communicated to the editors of the *Petersburg Intelligencer* a very unfavourable account of the general. He says that about three fourths of the number had the rank of officers of different grades, that they were *promised* regular pay for their services, but that a dollar had not been advanced to any one of the party—that in consequence of which and sickness, nearly one half of the number had forsaken Mina. This ought to operate as a warning to the adventurous youth of our country. We do not think that one in one hundred will realize their expectations. We are clearly of the opinion that our government ought to sanction the patriotic cause, or prohibit the citizens of this country from embarking in it in the manner they do.

**The Jews.**—An article in a Paris paper of the 24th September, says, the memorial religieux, announces that 20,000 Jews of the district of Mantua have addressed petitions to the emperor of Austria, in favour of their brethren, who they say are still persecuted at Piedmont, and in the States of Germany. One of the first subjects to be decided at Frankfort, it is said, relates to the public rights of this people.

**Lack of provisions in Canada.**—A Quebec paper says, "it has been given to us from the most authentic sources, that several parishes in the interior parts of this district are already so far in want of provisions, as to create the most serious alarms among the inhabitants. Among those mentioned as being in need of almost immediate assistance, we find a part of the Bay of St. Paul les Eboulements, St. Andre, Caconah and Rimouskie."

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**Joaquin Jose Vasques, jr.** Esq. of New-York, has been recognized, by the President, as consul general of the kingdom of Portugal.

John M. Forbes, American consul for the north of Europe, sailed from Boston on the 13th inst. in the ship Telegraph for Liverpool.

**John Quincy Adams.**—The Baltimore Patriot states upon the authority of a letter from George Town, that J. Q. Adams is to be recalled from London, and appointed secretary of state.

The Philadelphia papers say, that Mr. Daschcoff, the Russian minister, has changed his determination of withdrawing from the U. States, under a hope that something will occur to prevent the necessity of such a step.

#### MINA'S EXPEDITION.

We have conversed with a gentleman just arrived from Port-au-Prince, from whence he sailed on the 29th ult. who states that general Mina had sailed from that place on his expedition in the Caledonia.—That captain Boyle of Baltimore, in the Calipso and another vessel, was in the expedition. Our informant conversed with captain Boyle, but could not learn satisfactorily the place of their destination. He states there were about 250 Americans on board of the Caledonia, and that he saw several prizes sent in there under the colours of the United States. That one of them, supposed to be worth 100,000 dollars, was captured by the *Swift* of Baltimore. The Patriots have our best wishes for their success, but we do not believe the end can justify the means above alluded to.—Congress, we apprehend, will take up the subject in the early part of their session.

#### GENERAL POST OFFICE,

Nov. 16, 1816.

The several Postmasters are hereby required, whenever a person, to whom a newspaper is addressed, ceases to take it out of the post-office, to advise the editor of the paper thereof; and to add if known, whether the person is dead, moved away, or merely refuses. The mail is burthened with many newspapers, which are a loss to the proprietors as well as the public.

R. J. MEIGS, Jr. *Postmaster Gen.*

The proceedings of the court martial for the trial of Gen. Gaines is unavoidably postponed.

# THE NATIONAL REGISTER.

NO. 14. VOL. II.] WASHINGTON, SATURDAY, NOVEMBER 30, 1816. [WHOLE NO. 40.

PUBLISHED WEEKLY, BY JOEL K. MEAD, AT FIVE DOLLARS PER ANNUM.

## HINTS TO AMERICAN ARCHITECTS.

The Grecian architecture has been admired by the world for ages, and will continue to excite admiration as long as the fine arts are cultivated, or the principles of true taste are understood. The combination of sublimity, beauty, grandeur, and repose, which it displays, have seldom been imitated, and never rivalled. The soft and voluptuous climate of Ionia, and the Ægean isles, fanned by the gentle breezes of the sea, with a sky always serene, and a soil always fertile, was calculated to foster genius, to vivify imagination, and to infuse a taste for the refinements of art, and a relish for the beauties of nature. With such a people it was but a short step from the contemplation of living nature to the production of ideal beauty. Phydias produced his Jupiter by imitating the sublime description of Homer; and Apelles executed his Venus by a happy and exquisite combination of all the beauties of the human form, and all the charms of the human countenance.

The origin of the Grecian architecture has been ascribed to the Egyptians: but the monuments of this art they have left us are rude and uncouth, indeed, compared with the exquisite specimens yet to be discovered in Greece—specimens so vastly superior in delicacy, polish, and sublimity of effect, that we must hesitate to believe they borrowed any thing from the Egyptians. It must be confessed, indeed, that in jurisprudence and religion they excelled, and gave systems of morals to the rest of the world; but we cannot believe that Greece ever owed her rudiments of the art of building to the rude and unpolished productions of Egypt. We are rather inclined to think that a nation so refined in sensibility, and so susceptible of external impressions, would be more disposed to imitate the beauties and proportions of living nature than to have recourse to the heavy and unnatural productions of Egyptian art. The Tuscan, Doric, Ionic, and Corinthian orders are claimed by the Greeks as their invention. The Ionians are said to have borrowed the proportions of the Ionic column from the proportion of an Ionian girl, the flutes of the shaft from the folds of her clothes, and the volutes of the capital from her head dress. And the invention of the Corinthian cap is ascribed to the accidental sight of a basket which had been placed upon the leaves of the acanthus. But these were not

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the true origin of these orders; and we are disposed to believe, with St. Pierre, that the various proportions of the palm tree were the true basis of the different architectural orders. The diameter of the palm tree remains the same during the whole period of its existence, and whatever may be the elevation of its stem. Among the ruins of Persepolis may be seen numerous imitations of this tree. It will be recollected that the various proportions of the different orders, which in the Tuscan is *seven* times its diameter high, the Doric *eight* times, the Ionic *nine*, and the Corinthian *ten*, have been ascribed to the difference of proportion in a young woman at different ages. It is said her stature has, in infancy, *seven* times the breadth of the face; when more advanced, *eight* times; when still older, *nine* times; and when arrived at perfect maturity, *ten* times. "Is it not more likely," says St. Pierre, "that the trunk of the palm tree afforded the first model of a pillar by its perpendicular attitude and the equality of its diameters, as well as that it suggested the cylindrical tambours in the Tuscan order, by its annual rings. I am inclined, likewise, to look for the first notion of fluting the shaft in the vertical crevices of the bark which serve to convey to the root the rain that falls on its leaves. I am further inclined to trace the volutes of the Ionic capital to the first circles of the sheaths; the Corinthian capital to the leaves of its palms; the proportions of the different orders to the height of its trunk at different ages; and, finally, the plan of arranging columns together, to the manner in which palm trees are found grouped by the hand of nature."\* That the Greeks imitated nature accurately, and that the beautiful proportions of this elegant tree must have struck them with peculiar force, will scarcely admit of a doubt. If, then, the Greeks and other southern nations took the proportions and ornaments of their architecture from the palm tree, could not we in the north introduce the proportions of the pine into our architecture, and ornament it with various natural productions peculiar to these latitudes. It would establish a national architecture, and be more appropriate and equally beautiful. The trunk of the pine might serve for the proportions of the shafts of the column, and the whole might be crowned by imitations of the staple productions of this country—the corn, the cotton, and the tobacco; or

\* St. Pierre's Harmonies of Nature.



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Joaquin Joze Vasques, Jr. Esq. of New-York, has been recognized, by the President, as consul general of the kingdom of Portugal.

John M. Forbes, American consul for the north of Europe, sailed from Boston on the 13th inst. in the ship Telegraph for Liverpool.

John Quincy Adams.—The Baltimore Patriot states upon the authority of a letter from George Town, that J. Q. Adams is to be recalled from London, and appointed secretary of state.

The Philadelphia papers say, that Mr. Daschcoff, the Russian minister, has changed his determination of withdrawing from the U. States, under a hope that something will occur to prevent the necessity of such a step.

#### MINA'S EXPEDITION.

We have conversed with a gentleman just arrived from Port-au-Prince, from whence he sailed on the 29th ult. who states that general Mina had sailed from that place on his expedition in the Caledonia.—That captain Boyle of Baltimore, in the Calipso and another vessel, was in the expedition. Our informant conversed with captain Boyle, but could not learn satisfactorily the place of their destination. He states there were about 250 Americans on board of the Caledonia, and that he saw several prizes sent in there under the colours of the United States. That one of them, supposed to be worth 100,000 dollars, was captured by the *Swift* of Baltimore. The Patriots have our best wishes for their success, but we do not believe the end can justify the means above alluded to.—Congress, we apprehend, will take up the subject in the early part of their session.

#### GENERAL POST OFFICE,

Nov. 16, 1816.

The several Postmasters are hereby required, whenever a person, to whom a newspaper is addressed, ceases to take it out of the post-office, to advise the editor of the paper thereof; and to add if known, whether the person is dead, moved away, or merely refuses. The mail is burthened with many newspapers, which are a loss to the proprietors as well as the public.

R. J. MEIGS, Jr. Postmaster Gen.

The proceedings of the court martial for the trial of Gen. Gaines is unavoidably postponed.